

## ARTILLERY ACTIVE ON BANK OF MEUSE

French Foll Surprise' Attack  
Made by Germans on  
Hill 304.

## TEUTON WORKS SHELLED

British Troops Hold Ten Miles  
More on Front in  
France.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—Both the French and the German official reports on operations on the French front say there was a very heavy bombardment on the left bank of the Meuse at Verdun, around the famous hills, Le Mort Homme and 304. The Germans launched a surprise attack on Hill 304, which the French broke up.

French armies have been to the fore again. Sub-Lieut. Guynemer, one of the most famous of them, brought down on Tuesday his twenty-fourth German airplane, and on yesterday his twenty-fifth. On Tuesday Lieut. Hertzau brought down his fifteenth German airplane. Large French and British air raids on German munition factories are reported.

The French and Belgian statements tonight follow:

French.—On the left bank of the Meuse during the day an energetic artillery, energetically counter-shelled by us, violently bombarded our positions on the front of Le Mort Homme and Hill 304.

In Lorraine we carried out a surprise attack on a trench north of Radonville, taking two machine guns. The counter-attack was intermittent on the rest of the front.

Belgian.—Reciprocal bombardments took place this afternoon in the regions of Namur and Saint-Sauveur.

The French afternoon statement reads:

On the left bank of the Meuse we repulsed easily a surprise attack of the enemy directed against the eastern slopes of Hill 304. The night passed quietly on the remainder of the front.

Thirteen airplanes belonging to the British Naval Air Corps, at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon, bombarded the blast furnaces of the Siemens, dropping 120 kilograms (about 2,600 pounds) of projectiles.

German Factories Shelled.

French aviators yesterday and last night conducted various bombing operations. The railroad stations at Montmedy and Pierrepont, east of Longueval, received a large number of projectiles. Bombs to the amount of 250 kilograms were thrown down on factories at Thionville and Jœuf, in the valley of the Briey; eighty-two bombs of 120 kilograms were thrown on the blast furnaces at Homeback and sixty more on the furnaces at Hagondange.

One of our dirigibles dropped bombs on the factories at Hagondange, and another on certain metal factories at Neukirchen.

The German statement issued to-day reads:

Isolated sections of the Flanders front and the Somme salient were temporarily under serious artillery fire.

The activity of the aerial forces was of the liveliest sort. The enemy in aerial engagements or through operations of our defensive aircraft lost eight airplanes.

British troops have taken over ten miles more of the front in France. Major-General Frederick R. Murray, chief director of military operations at the War Office, has informed correspondents.

"I will be glad to tell you the exact extent of the line taken over when we are sure the Germans know the point of junction," Gen. Murray said.

Somme Offensive Delayed.

The British are unable to continue the Somme offensive for the present, Gen. Murray added, because the ground on the Somme front is so pitted with shell holes, filled with water and the fogs in the Somme valley are so thick that infantry movement is impossible and artillery observation very difficult. Fronts have not been broken enough to make the ground passable. The French have formed the same conclusion, and have transferred their attention to Verdun.

The official communiqué from British headquarters issued to-night reads:

During the night the enemy fired a great number of gas shells at places behind our front line in the neighborhood of Arras and west and north-west of Lens.

There was considerable artillery activity to-day on both sides in the Somme area and the Ypres sector.

FIGHTING ON CARSO PLATEAU.

Italiana Occupy Hollow in Front of Austrian Lines.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—The Italian War Office communication issued to-day says: The weather conditions have improved and the artillery on both sides has been more active, particularly on the Carso sector.

During the night in the area south of Monte Falcato our troops occupied by surprise a hollow of about 1,000 metres in front of the Austrian lines.

CROWLEY DENIES BOMB PLOT.

Says Activities Were Confined to Neutrality Violation Inquiry.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—Charles C. Crowley, a private detective, charged with complicity in a conspiracy to blow up ships and railroads carrying munitions to the Entente Allies, denied the charges to-day in the Government's prosecution of Frans Bopp, German Consul-General here, and six others for alleged violation of American neutrality.

Crowley said his activities had been confined to investigation of alleged violation by Entente nations of the neutrality of the United States. Among the important facts uncovered, Crowley said, and duly reported to his employer, Consul-General Bopp, was that parts of American-made airplanes, destined for British use, were at one time stored in the New York Militia Armory at Buffalo.

Paper Manufacturers Confer.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Paper manufacturers, here for the resumption to-morrow of the Federal Trade Commission's open hearings in its new printed investigation, were called into conference to-day by the commission to discuss certain phases of the situation. It is understood the paper industry has been asked to submit a statement of its position.

## "LEAK" STIRS LAWSON TO ATTACK CONGRESS

Hints to Rep. Wood That  
Senate and House Are Trying  
to Dodge Inquiry.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Representative W. R. Wood of Indiana received a telegram to-day from Thomas W. Lawson, dated New York, in which he reiterated his charge that there had been a "leak" of information in advance of the publicity by the President of his peace note, and intimating that the Senate and House were trying to run away from the investigation.

"Take a tip from one who played the big Washington-Wall Street game and the big international publicity game before you were old enough to distinguish between a stock exchange and a Congressional hall," said Lawson, "and do not let the Senate and House escape the publicity of the President of his peace note, and intimating that the Senate and House were trying to run away from the investigation."

There were only sixty odd millions hogged from last week's stock market, Lawson said, "and the Senate and House are trying to escape the publicity of the President of his peace note, and intimating that the Senate and House were trying to run away from the investigation."

Another tip Mr. Lawson averred was given "in the best of spirit" was that if it were actually believed in Washington that there was a leak in the investigation of last week's stock market, the number was given in a Berlin despatch of September 21 as 400 officers and 6,000 men.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—German Cafandaris, former Minister of Interior in Greece, now representing the Venizelos provisional Government in this country, declared to-day, a published letter attributed to former Premier Venizelos calling for extreme efforts to bring Greece into the war on the side of the Allies to be a forgery.

Copies of the communication were handed yesterday to the State Department for its information by Greek Charge Vouras. The letter, which is alleged to have been written to Gen. Koras, head of the Greek revolutionary movement, suggests personal violence against "designated persons no matter who they may be."

"The forgery adds one more crime to those committed by the court circles of Athens, in order to counterbalance the popular impression made on the civilized world by the vandals, murders and imprisonment which lately have taken place in Athens at the expense of liberal citizens. The forgery adds one more crime to those committed by the court circles of Athens."

SECOND NOTE BY GREECE  
Popular Recastment is Growing  
Against the Entente Blockade.

ATHENS, Dec. 28.—The Government is anxious to have the Entente Powers pointing out the growing popular recastment against their blockade. The note refers to Greece's previous communication urging the Entente Powers to refer to clearing the situation, and says that unless some such action is taken soon Greece may be forced to seek a new course for itself, respecting the course to be followed.

100 LOCOMOTIVES FOR FRANCE.  
Baldwin Co. Closes \$4,000,000  
Contract for Freight Engines.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 28.—A contract for 100 heavy freight locomotives for the Paris, Lyons and Mediterranean Railroad Company of France was closed to-day by the Baldwin Locomotive Works of this city.

The order, according to the announcement, amounts to about \$4,000,000 and is supplementary to the contract for forty locomotives placed by the same railroad several weeks ago.

GEN. IVES ESTATE \$1,537,256.  
Bulk of Property Bequeathed to  
Yale University.

The estate of Gen. Brayton Ives, civil war financier and twice president of the New York Stock Exchange, was appraised at \$1,537,256, in a report filed yesterday by Appraiser Spencer. Only assets taxable in this State were appraised. The largest were old bonds worth \$561,970, and art objects, books and other personal property sold by direction of the Surrogate for \$555,763.

The General, who died October 22, 1914, at his country home in Ossining, cut off in his will his widow, Mrs. Eleanor Bissell Ives, from whom he was separated, and his eldest daughter, Winifred. He left his residuary estate, which amounts to \$1,179,777, to Yale University. His second daughter, Frances, who lives with her mother, receives an annuity of \$2,000, and Mrs. Eleanor Maynard, a third daughter, \$100,000 outright.

DONALD SUEB ON SHIP DEAL.  
Anticosti Island's Owner Brings  
Action on Contract.

From papers filed in the Supreme Court yesterday by John Godfrey Sax, of Worcester, William A. Sax, Jr., developed that Gaston Menier of Paris, owner of Anticosti Island, Canada, has brought suit to compel John A. Donald, recently appointed to the Shipboard Board to fulfill an alleged contract relating to the sale of the steamship Thyra Menier.

This ship, the complaint states, was constructed by Donald in 1913 for Henry Menier, brother of Gaston, under a contract which chartered it to Menier for five years with the privilege of purchasing it on the payment of \$22,000 (\$115,000). In November Gaston, as the heir of his late brother, offered Donald \$110,000, according to the papers, but this was refused.

HOLBROOK BLINN TO PRODUCE.  
With James Sheagreen Actor Will  
Put on Mark Swan Play.

Holbrook Blinn and James Sheagreen have entered the theatrical production field and have opened offices in the Knickerbocker Theatre Building preliminary to offering a new four act drama by Mark Swan. Mr. Blinn for a number of years has been a well known actor, both in association with many notable players and at the head of his own company. The Holbrook Blinn Players in the Princess Theatre two years ago produced a series of one act plays.

Mr. Sheagreen has for the last four years managed the tours of Margaret Anglin and has been press representative and general manager for several New York theatres. He had received a personal message from First Chief Clarence saying that Gen. Murgula had returned to the front.

FOREIGN REPORTED RETAKEN.  
Caravan Announces Capture of  
City by Gen. Murgula.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Dec. 28.—The Mexican Consul, Mr. Beltran, announced this afternoon that he had received a personal message from First Chief Clarence saying that Gen. Murgula had returned to the front.

More than 400 men at work in the ship yards fought the fire, but it got beyond their control and a general alarm was sent in. The Standard New York and several tugs from the Standard Oil Company at Bayonne responded.

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## GREEK KING ABOUT TO OPPOSE ALLIES

Interned Troops Ordered to  
Fight Against Entente  
in Macedonia.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—A telegram has been received from Salonica by the Anglo-Hellenic League to the effect that the Greek division which surrendered to the Bulgarians at Kavala has been ordered by King Constantine to leave Greece, Germany, where it has been interned, for the Macedonian front, to fight against the Entente Allies.

Such a move on the part of King Constantine would be tantamount to an act of war against the Entente Powers. Recent despatches from Athens have represented that the differences between Greece and the Entente were being composed.

At the time of the occupation of eastern Macedonia part of the Kavala garrison of Greek troops surrendered to the Germans and Bulgarians and the others were removed on Entente warships to the Aegean Sea.

The language follows closely that of the national defence act, in which the unorganized militia is defined as including every able bodied male citizen within the prescribed age limit or those who have declared their intention of becoming citizens.

The National Guard regulations, which will be amplified in great detail later, also strike at the problem of dependent families of soldiers, which has cost the Government several millions of dollars through the border mobilization. Recruiting officers for the National Guard are directed to discourage a enlistment of married men or those with dependent families.

It is provided in the regulations that no officer of the guard hereafter shall be recognized as such under the defence act unless he shall have subscribed to an oath binding him to obey the orders of the President and of the Governor of his State.

Appointments will be made on recommendation to the Secretary of War from Governors or the commanding officers of State or Territorial units of the guard and after proper physical and mental examination by boards of officers. Promotions will be handled in the same way and any officer who fails in the examination as to his professional ability cannot come up for reexamination within a year.

After three years active service, or when the organizations are disbanded, and after three years in the National Guard reserve.

The reserve is to remain an unorganized body in peace times except for temporary purposes. It will be composed of men who have served three years in active organizations and whose enlistment contracts will require them to serve three more in the reserve. To fit for Federal service they will report in the grade of private.

250 RESERVE CORPS OFFICERS.  
Names of 121 Appointees An-  
nounced at War Department.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Names of 121 additional appointees to the officers' reserve corps created by the national defence act were made public to-day at the War Department.

SEAPLANES DESTROY BRIDGE.  
Turkish Communication With Sup-  
ply Base Is Cut Off.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—British seaplanes have destroyed a vital link in the Turkish railroad communications in Asia Minor, the Chaidari bridge, across the Chaidari river, according to an official announcement made by the Admiralty.

The destruction of the bridge, which is eighteen miles east of Adana, cuts off not only the Bagdad main line, but the Syrian lines from railroad connection with western Asia Minor and a supply line for the Turkish armies in the Caucasus, Mesopotamia, Palestine and Arabia.

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## U. S. CITIZENS LIABLE TO A MILITIA DRAFT

All Able Bodied Males, 18 to  
45, Now Subject to Na-  
tional Defence Law.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Every able bodied male citizen of the United States between 18 and 45 is held liable for service in the National Guard in war time, without further act of Congress, by War Department regulations for the government of the guard issued under the national defence act. In a circular prepared nearly two months ago, but made public only to-day, the militia bureau directs that "here a National Guard regiment is called out for war service a reserve training battalion to fill vacancies at the front shall be organized out of the National Guard reserve and by voluntary enlistment."

"If for any reason," the order continues, "there shall not be enough reserve or enough voluntary enlistments to organize or to keep the reserve battalions at prescribed strength, a sufficient number of the unorganized militia shall be drafted by the President to maintain such battalion or other lesser reserve unit at the prescribed strength."

The language follows closely that of the national defence act, in which the unorganized militia is defined as including every able bodied male citizen within the prescribed age limit or those who have declared their intention of becoming citizens.

The National Guard regulations, which will be amplified in great detail later, also strike at the problem of dependent families of soldiers, which has cost the Government several millions of dollars through the border mobilization. Recruiting officers for the National Guard are directed to discourage a enlistment of married men or those with dependent families.

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## MIRTH AND MELODY AS BOHEMIANS DINE

Many Musical Novelties Served  
and Comedy Opera  
Produced.

There may have been a time, as Rubin Goldmark suggested at the tenth anniversary dinner of the Bohemians at the Hotel Astor last night, when musicians were of flowing mane and flaming mien, of combustible temperament and disposition as jealous as to be unfit for human society. But if that was ever so, Euterpe has softened her devotees—or perhaps the Bohemians themselves have taught them how to fraternize with true understanding and real sympathy.

Certainly the tenth dinner of the Bohemians or, to give them their other title, the New York Musicians Club, was a delightfully human function with mirth everywhere bubbling and laughter savouring every course. Many of the greatest in the land were there, but they were made no more of than the obscure.

No set of musicians could be expected to walk in to dinner without some sort of urge or voice or brass or wood wind and when it came time for the parade to form in the corridors of the Astor, with Franz Kneisel and August Francke and Rubin Goldmark and Sigmund Herzig leading the orchestra, under the direction of Edwin F. Goldman, played Johann Swendsen's "Coronation March." And with various courses were served musical novelties, such as the amusing appearance of the four emigrant musicians, Louis Burgtaller, Karl Kreisel, Charles Gerdner and Karl von Bitter in costume suggesting Ellis Island; while with the coffee the orchestra rendered a parody on the "Tannhauser" overture.

The piece de resistance came at the end of the dinner when the curtain at the north end of the grand ballroom was suddenly rolled up revealing a stage set for Mosart's comedy opera, "The Impresario," for which Henry C. Krehbiel made the English adaptation. In the cast were David Bispham, John Sainpolis, Albert Heiss, Greta Tordella and Lucy Gates. Sam Franko conducted.